**From:** Max Cotler
**To:** City Council
**Subject:** Upcoming HP/Israel Boycott
**Date:** Saturday, April 14, 2018 9:36:23 AM

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Hello City Council Members,

I have been a resident of Cambridge for 2 years in Agasizz, and have been blown away by the accepting and community spirit present in the city. When I recently heart about the upcoming vote on HP and Israel I was utterly shocked to be frank. I am writing to respectfully oppose this vote and the lack of transparency surrounding it.

It is clear to me that this vote advertised as a mandate against HP is really part of the larger boycott, divest, sanctions (BDS) movement that is against Israel. I think it is unfair to Cambridge residents to mask the vote in this way.

As a Jew I have complex feelings on this matter. On one side I fully support Israel's right to exist, but I do find the government's treatment of Palestinian people appalling. I do understand the anger surrounding the action of the Israeli government, but I do not think it is Cambridge's place to push that responsibility to the citizens of Israel and the employees of HP. The actions of a government do not reflect the values of all its people. I am sure many in Cambridge would not want other nations to condemn all Americans because of the actions of President Trump or the CEO of an American company.

We, as a city, should not condemn innocent citizens, Israeli or Palestinian. We instead should encourage the peacekeeping efforts and provide humanitarian support to all peoples.

Thank you for your time and I hope you think fully about your vote. I am happy to speak more on the matter by email or phone (941) 228-8711.

Best,
Max Cotler
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